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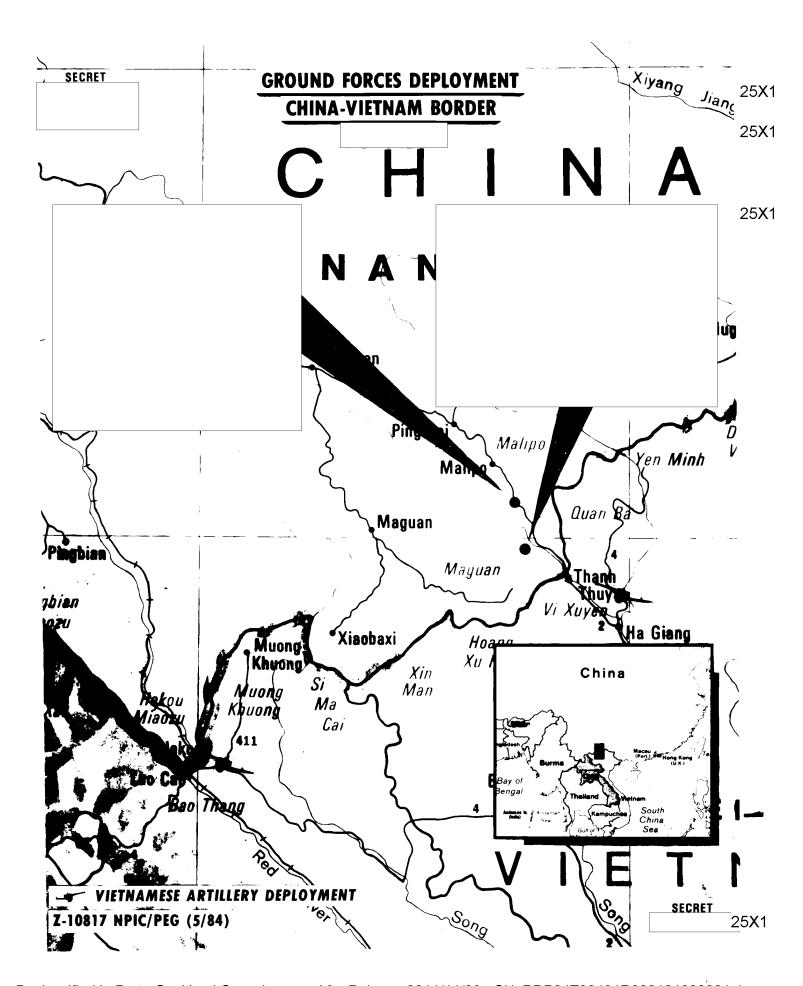
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GROUND FORCES DEPLOYMENT CHINA-VIETNAM BORDER (SWN)

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- 1. SIGNIFICANCE: CHINESE AND VIETNAMESE FORCES ARE DEPLOYED ALONG THE WESTERN SECTOR OF THE CHINA-VIETNAM BORDER. (SWN)
- 2. REMARKS: PARTIALLY CLOUD-COVERED STRIP IMAGERY WAS ACQUIRED OF AREAS NEAR ROUTES 2 AND 4 ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CHINA-VIETNAM BORDER. (SWN)

IN CHINA --

A MAJOR CHINESE INFANTRY AND ARTILLERY (ARTY) FORCE IS DEPLOYED ALONG THE BORDER APPROXIMATELY 11 NM NORTHWEST OF HA GIANG, VIETNAM AND 50 NM NORTHEAST OF HEKOU, CHINA/LAO CAI, VIETNAM. THE CHINESE FORCES EXTEND NORTHWARD FROM THE BORDER ALONG BOTH SIDES OF THE CHOU-YANG-TA HO RIVER FOR APPROXIMATELY 12 NM. THE FORCE CONSISTS OF AT LEAST 410 TRUCKS (ALL NOT ON GRAPHIC) (MOSTLY IN CONVOYS OF SIX TO 12 VEHICLES), 100 TENTS (IN GROUPS OF TWO TO EIGHT), AT LEAST SIX FOUR-GUN ARTY BATTERIES (BTRY) (ALL NOT ON GRAPHIC), ONE CONFIRMED AND ONE PROBABLE IN PROBABLE RELATED ACTIVITY, ANTIAIRCRAFT ARTILLERY BTRY. ELEMENTS OF THE 445TH ARTILLERY REGIMENT, 165TH INFANTRY EIGHT HOWITZERS, DIVISION, 55TH ARMY HAVE DEPARTED GARRISON. NORMALLY SEEN IN OPEN STORAGE AT KAO-CHANG-HSIA ARMY BARRACKS ARE NOT PRESENT. THIS EQUIPMENT WAS LAST THE ABSENCE OF THIS OBSERVED IN GARRISON EQUIPMENT MAY BE RELATED TO RECENT REPORTS THAT ELEMENTS OF THE 55TH ARMY WERE DEPLOYING TO THE CHINA-VIETNAM BORDER.

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IN VIETNAM --

ELEMENTS OF TWO PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM FIELD ARTY BATTALIONS ARE DEPLOYED 3 NM EAST OF THE BORDER AND 6 NM EAST OF HEKOU/LAO CAI. NUMEROUS SMALL PERSONNEL TENTS ARE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE AREA. THE VIETNAMESE ARTY BATTALION, DEPLOYED ALONG A ROAD IN A RIVER VALLEY 4 NM SOUTHEAST OF THE CHINA-VIETNAM BORDER AND 8.5 NM NORTHWEST OF HA GIANG ON 8 MAY IS STILL PRESENT. (SWN)

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue.

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